

AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

BULLETIN

MEMORIAL
NUMBER

SAMUEL MARTIN INMAN

FEBRUARY, 1915

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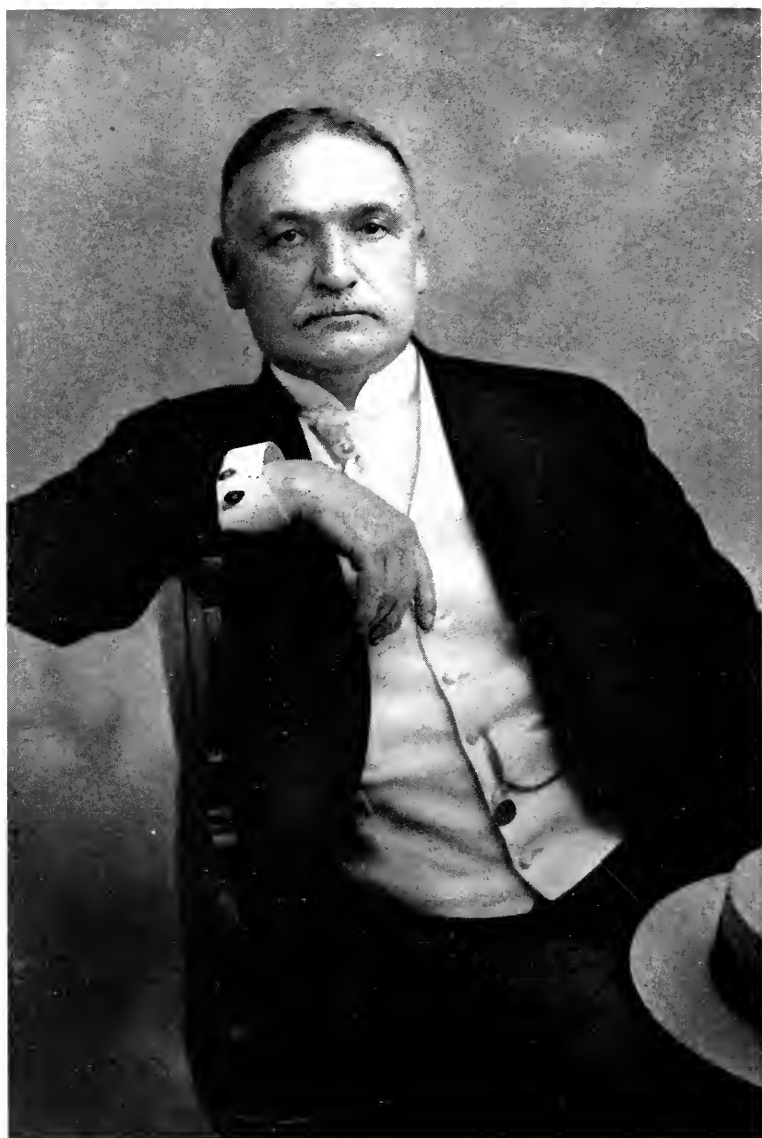
MEMORIAL NUMBER

SAMUEL MARTIN INMAN

*"Know ye not that there is a prince and a
great man fallen this day in Israel?"*

*"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord
from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they
may rest from their labours; and their works do
follow them."*

DECATUR
GEORGIA



Mr. Samuel M. Inman

Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Agnes Scott College



R. INMAN was born at Dandridge, Jefferson County, Tennessee, February 19, 1843. He was the son of godly parents, members of the Presbyterian Church. He united with the Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Dandridge, Tenn., Nov. 15, 1857. He joined the First Presbyterian church, Atlanta, by letter, June 4, 1868, and was ordained Elder Nov. 25, 1888. He received his college training at Mayville College, Tennessee, and Princeton College, New Jersey. From the latter college he returned home at the beginning of the Civil War and at the age of eighteen joined the Confederate army and served with distinction to the close of the war. In the spring of 1867 he entered business in Atlanta, and was a citizen of this city until his death. This is a very brief outline. To fill it in with all the noble deeds of this full and distinguished life would require a volume. I must content myself with some suggestive statements as to what he was.

As a man. Mr. Inman was modest, gentle, refined, affable. With these traits he combined firmness and strength. He had a fine, well stored mind, rare judgment, splendid poise, and came to his conclusions deliberately. While his own convictions were firm, he was tolerant with the views of others. He seldom antagonized, but usually won to his own way of thinking. He had a deep abiding interest in all that concerned the welfare of his fellow-men, and his sympathies were broad and genuine. His character was the highest. His word was always his bond. His honor, his integrity, his purity, his sense of justice, his faithfulness to every obligation, his genuine goodness, won for him universal esteem and confidence.

As a Christian. I was never associated with Mr. Inman in Church relations, nor in any church work other than that of Agnes Scott College. I can, therefore, only give my impressions received through eleven years of intimate association in the work of the College. Although he was rather reticent on the subject of personal religion, I was impressed with his faith, his loyalty and devotion to his church and the cause of Christ, his reverence for Divine things, his personal humility and his deep interest in all efforts to advance the Kingdom

of God. I am quite sure that it was the Christian ideals, character and work of Agnes Scott which enlisted his deepest interest. When I informed him at different times of religious awakenings in the College, of confessions of Christ, and of the splendid work of girls who had gone out from the College he was an eager listener and expressed his delight. After all, is it not the silent influence of the Christian, the consistent daily walk and conservation, the work done for Christ, the very atmosphere which surrounds the Christian, which bespeak the reality and power of religion? It is what the Christian *is* rather than what he *says* which renders him the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

As a citizen. For forty-seven years he was a citizen of Atlanta. By universal consent he was accounted the "First Citizen" of the city in which he lived so long. That this was no empty title was shown by the honor paid him at his death. Never has the city risen as one man to show such love and honor to a private citizen as it did in his funeral. Why was this? Because of his public spirit; because of his deep interest in all classes of people; because of services rendered; because of liberality to every worthy cause; because of noble and unselfish life; because of his high character; because of his broad mindedness; because of his interest and co-operation in every movement for the good of the city he loved.

As a business man. The business side of a college is exceedingly important. Hence in my association with Mr. Inman I saw much of him as a business man. Before his association with the Board he had already made a conspicuous success in a business career and was recognized as one of the ablest financiers in the country. It was my privilege to confer often with him about the business of the college and to learn something of his great ability. I was impressed with his thoroughness as a business man. No detail seemed to escape him. I was impressed with his mastery of every condition of business, with the almost infallibility of his judgment, with his absolute integrity, with the unlimited trust imposed in him by the business world, and with his resourcefulness.

This was the man who was elected to the Board of Trustees of Agnes Scott College, February 3, 1899, and October 13, 1903, was unanimously chosen Chairman of the Board, succeeding Col. Geo. W. Scott.

The preceding imperfect sketch will enable us better to understand his work as Trustee and Chairman. Inasmuch as the College had such a large place in his mind and heart for so many years and may be regarded as the crowning Christian work of his life, it is due him that this work be briefly summarized.

I. WHAT HE MEANT TO THE COLLEGE.

His personality and ability meant much. His personality was pleasing, winsome, forceful. His great ability had been developed and tested

in many ways. He brought to the college a wide and ripe experience, and the accumulated wisdom of a distinguished career. The power of such a man and his value to the College were beyond words.

His large influence meant much. He was widely known. In Atlanta he was universally loved and trusted. No man in the wide circle of his acquaintance wielded a greater influence. What it meant to the College to have this man the Chairman of its Board, to have it known that he believed in Agnes Scott and had so fully committed himself to it can not be estimated.

His leadership meant much. He had rare gifts and ability as a leader. His character and high mindedness commanded universal confidence. His disinterested motives were never questioned. His fine judgment was trusted by all. He was always considerate of others, and had peculiar power to win followers. Then, he never asked others to do what he was unwilling to do himself, indeed he would first make the largest subscription, assume the greater responsibility, and undertake the most self-denying work. This was illustrated in the campaign of 1909, when the College raised the large sum of \$350,000.00. The success of this campaign was largely due to Mr. Inman.

His donations meant much to the College.

Including his last subscription Mr. Inman's gifts to the College aggregated over \$100,000.00. Besides, through his gifts the College was able to secure possibly three times as much more. This financial aid came to the College at critical periods in its development when it meant more than can be expressed.

What he was as a Christian meant much to the College. It can not be doubted that this humble, consistent Christian, so loyal to the Church, so desirous of advancing the Kingdom of Christ, and so impressed with his responsibility as a steward, earnestly desired to devote his time, his efforts, his influence and his wealth to that Christian work which in his judgment promised most for the glory of God. The fact that this servant of God selected Agnes Scott as the chief work of his ripest and best years speaks more than any one can write. And what a heritage to the College are the noble lives, the Christian character, the consecration to its service, the faith and the prayers of two such men as George W. Scott and S. M. Inman!

II. THE GREAT ADVANCEMENT MADE BY THE COLLEGE DURING THE PERIOD OF HIS CHAIRMANSHIP.

The extension and improvement of the College plant. This includes:

The enlargement of the campus from nine to eighteen acres and many improvements on the grounds.

The erection of four splendid brick buildings, namely: Rebekah Scott Hall, Jennie D. Inman Hall, Carnegie Library, Lowry Science Hall.

The providing of an endowment of \$175,000.00.

More than doubling the total assets of the College.

The educational progress of the institution was quite as remarkable, if not more so. This includes:

The advancement of the institution to the grade of a college and the change of name from Agnes Scott Institute to Agnes Scott College.

The complete separation of preparatory and college work, and the establishment of Agnes Scott Academy as a college preparatory school of recognized standing.

The reception of the College as a member of the "Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Southern States".

The discontinuance of the Academy to make room for the growth of the College.

The broadening of the curriculum and the increase of faculty.

The assignment of the College to "Group I" of colleges for women in the United States in the National Classification of Colleges.

The admission of our A. B. graduates without examination as candidates for the Master's degree in such graduate schools as Columbia University.

In this two-fold advancement he took a large part. In the extension and improvement of the College plant and in all the finances of the College he was the leader and chief agent. In the educational advance each step was taken with his counsel and advice. He took the keenest interest and pride in every improvement and in every step of progress. Nothing delighted him more than to hear commendations of the College by those in whose judgment he had confidence.

Truly the labors of Mr. Inman at Agnes Scott were of the highest value. Any man might well rejoice in having had a chief part in the building of such a college. For untold generations his work shall bless hundreds of young women and the radiations of their influence are beyond our power to compute.

III. WHAT WAS THE BASIS OF HIS INTEREST, DEVOTION, DONATIONS?

He was a man of unusual judgment. He was a wise and far seeing man. He was a careful investor. He was an earnest Christian who desired to invest his money and his life for the glory of God. What was the explanation of the deep interest of this able, wise and godly man in Agnes Scott College? The writer has been closely associated with him for the last eleven years, has conferred with him concerning the

Six

college scores of times each year and has been honored by his confidence. He believes, therefore, that he can answer correctly—

The type of the Agnes Scott girls. He had met a number of girls who had received their training at this institution. He had observed them in their homes as wives and mothers. He had seen them in society and in the church. He was deeply impressed with the kind of women these girls had become. He concluded that an institution which gave such training to young women was exceedingly important and that its possibilities for usefulness were unlimited.

He had a high conception of the influence and power of woman. Often have I heard him so express himself. He said that it was woman who made the home, that greatest center of human influence, save the church. He also felt that the work woman was doing in the church was of greatest value and that in the future this work would be enlarged. He, therefore felt, that the prospect of large usefulness for a woman's college was quite as great as for the college for men.

The form of control. The College is owned and conducted by a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees, all of whom, under the Charter, must be Presbyterians. It has no connection with any Church Court. This arrangement met his hearty approval.

He believed we should devote ourselves to developing and establishing a few strong colleges. I have often heard him say he thought we had too many so called colleges. He felt that by concentrating on a few institutions and making them strong in every respect the money would yield far better returns. His idea was to make Agnes Scott a college worthy to live, and to insure its future.

He was deeply interested in the Christian character of the College. He heartily endorsed its Christian ideals and was always interested to hear of the religious interest and activity of the students. His great desire was to see the College a spiritual power and a center of sound Christian influence.

In closing this memorial I can not forbear to express deep gratitude to God for Samuel Martin Inman. When Col. George W. Scott was taken away the Board felt that the great friend and benefactor of the College had left a vacancy most difficult to fill. He was a rare man of great ability and trusted leadership. His devotion to the institution, his faith and prayers, and his constant aid and support had been our inspiration and source of reliance. What should we do? Where turn for a new leader? I have always thought God raised up Mr. Inman to succeed Col. Scott. They were kindred spirits. Mr. Inman once said to me that the two men who had influenced his life most were Wm. A. Moore and Col. Geo. W. Scott. All three were of the same type, modest, unassuming, of the highest character, broad minded and progressive. Again I must express my gratitude to have had the privi-

lege of close association and fellowship with Mr. Inman for the past eleven years. It has been a great benediction. The influence of this association shall abide with me during life. I shall hold his confidence and his friendship among my chief treasures.

It is a matter of special gratitude and rejoicing that when Mr. Inman made his offer to the College last June to give \$25,000.00 to the payment of the debt of the College on condition that the friends of the college duplicate this gift, he expressed his confidence in the future of the College if this debt could be provided for. He had the satisfaction of knowing before his death that his condition had been met and doubtless passed to his reward firm in the belief that the future of the College was assured and bright. It remains for those of us left to continue the work to see to it that his hope was justified. Shall not its friends rededicate themselves to insure a full realization of the hope of its departed chairman?

F. H. GAINES.

Agnes Scott College,
January 25, 1915.

Mr. Samuel M. Inman

An Appreciation by C. M. Candler

*"Know ye not that there is a
prince and a great man fallen
this day in Israel?"*

THESE words of David upon the death of Abner came intuitively to many who knew Mr. Inman, when they were told of his death—they were so beautifully and truthfully expressive of their estimate of his life and character.

Truly he was a great and good man. He lived well—he died well, and his deeds live after him. He was an eminently successful man. In honorable business he accumulated a handsome fortune. Not a human being ever believed he held a tainted dollar, or would accept one. His business life was one of open, straightforward dealings with his fellow men. His word was his bond, accepted by all, scrupulously kept. He advantaged himself at no man's cost. He builded no fortune upon the ruin or misfortune of another. He won fairly and held steadfastly the confidence and esteem of his fellow men.

While of a younger generation, I knew Mr. Inman by reputation, since my early manhood, more than twenty-five years. For the past ten years it was my privilege to have enjoyed a somewhat close association with him in the work for Agnes Scott College.

He is one of the few men I have known, of whom I have never at any time heard spoken an unkind word or an envious criticism. The crown of honest manhood placed upon his brow by all who knew him or knew of him, provoked no enmity, brought no jealousy, and doubtless

*"Shall new luster boast
When Victor's wreaths and Monarch's gems
Shall blend in common dust."*

Having honestly accumulated wealth, he used it for noble purposes and to noble ends. What his benefactions aggregated perhaps no one

knows. It is known that they were wide and large, for in his giving he was more than liberal, he was generous. He did not give impulsively or spasmodically. He gave wisely and with judgment, as well as liberally and ungrudgingly. None of his gifts were as balm for a perturbed conscience or atonement for conscious wrong. He gave not merely to relieve necessity, but to be helpful to the object of his donation, whether individual or institution. In all of his giving and helping he was modest, unostentatious and unselfish.

It is a sad truth that selfishness is too often the mainspring of giving. Mr. Inman's generosity, in so far as he could properly direct, were of the Scriptural kind, unknown to the other hand. His larger gifts had in view definite purposes. He gave to Agnes Scott College during the past ten years more than \$100,000.00 in cash. He believed in man's stewardship as to wealth. He desired to so dispense his benefactions as that they would multiply and perpetuate themselves in continuing results. He deliberately, in my opinion, *invested* the \$100,000.00 to Agnes Scott College, in Christian education, that in its returns through the years to come, God might be glorified in the upbuilding of His Kingdom and the preparation for labor therein of His handmaidens.

His interest in education was not confined to one institution, nor alone centered in the higher education. During the last year of the late Governor Terrell's administration, in 1906-07, there was a great and far reaching uplift in Common School education for the masses in Georgia. By appointment of the Governor, Mr. Inman headed the state wide movement in this great cause, giving liberally toward its expenses, and devoting much of his time, thought and activities to the creation of a healthier public sentiment for public education and the enlargement and improvement of our state public educational system. I had the honor and the privilege of humble service and association with him in this work, and therefore opportunity to know of his invaluable services in this movement from which flowed great public good. It was the beginning of the new birth and growth of our regenerated public educational system.

Mr. Inman, though one of the most modest and retiring men I ever knew, was at the same time, a born leader of men. He never sought leadership. It was always thrust upon him. During his active life in this community I doubt if any one can recall a single great civic, religious or educational movement or effort in which he was not in the forefront of endeavor. As a leader, he led not ostentatiously with flying banners and blaring trumpets, but with firm step, unwavering courage, rare judgment, quiet determination.

I never heard of his making a failure or suffering defeat in any movement or enterprise he led. He possessed rare qualities of resourcefulness, and a spirit of determined purpose which quailed not in the presence of difficulties. In his lexicon there was no such word as failure. He inspired unshakeable confidence in his associates and followers. Especially was this noticeable in his leadership, in his later efforts, of young men whose keenest enthusiasm he always aroused.

I have seen such young men perform wonders of work in a noble cause because, as they said, it would never do to disappoint Mr. Inman. And when the victory was won and the cause triumphant, how strikingly characteristic it was to discover him like Saul, "hid among the stuff", and graciously, earnestly insisting that to others belonged all the praise.

But in all and through all, Mr. Inman was a *follower* of the meek and lowly Christ. His faith in God was simple, childlike; his leaning upon Him constant; his confidence in His goodness, without wavering. No one ever came in close contact with him without sure conviction as to the true nobleness of this man's character, life and purposes.

I have set down here no word of fulsome flattery of the dead, for truly

"Know ye not that there is a
prince and a great man fallen
this day in Israel?"

Decatur, Ga.,

January 25th, 1915.

Mr. Samuel M. Inman

A Tribute by J. K. Orr



HO does not remember some one particular day when he has stood facing the western sky to watch the great orb of day sink into the west.

Its softened surface, restful to the naked eye, its radiance thrown upon a background of pure gold.

Yes, the sun has set, but all is not dark. The sky is full of brightness long after it is out of sight.

The great and noble life of Mr. S. M. Inman will still illumine the world long after he has passed into the great beyond. This thought I am sure was with every one privileged to be at the beautiful "going home" service of Mr. Inman in the old First Church.

After his family and his Church, we have the right to believe his next interest centered in this college.

I once heard him tell a meeting of college women that all he had done for Agnes Scott was but a small part of an everlasting obligation he owed Providence for a Christian mother.

Our last interview in his office early in December, was altogether about the college—his plans, his prayers, his hopes, for its future.

From the sacred memory of that cherished hour may there come inspiration and courage to do our part to have those prayers come true.

Resolutions of Respect



AT A MEETING of the Faculty of Agnes Scott College, held January twelfth, a committee was appointed to draft resolutions embodying, to some extent, the feelings with which the members of the Faculty have received the news of the passing away of Mr. Samuel M. Inman, for so many years Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The following paper was accordingly presented and adopted:

Inasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God to call to his eternal reward our beloved and honored friend, Mr. Samuel Martin Inman, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of this College, be it therefore resolved:

1. That in the passing of Mr. Inman the College has lost a noble and generous benefactor, a peerless leader, and a sympathetic and faithful friend.

2. That in the whole career of Mr. Inman we recognize the life of one who might truthfully have said of himself, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain"; and that we therefore bow in humble submission to the decree that has called him hence, knowing as we do that our great loss is our friend's incalculable betterment.

3. That we shall always cherish his memory as an incentive to the best effort that we can put forth in behalf of the young women of the South, whose welfare was ever present before him in all his hopes and plans for the College.

4. That as a small token of our love and reverence for this friend and co-worker we suspend the exercises of the College on Thursday, January fourteenth, and attend in a body the services to be held in his honor on that day.

5. That we extend to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy, with the hope that in the midst of their great sorrow they may be able to rejoice in the happiness of him who has gone, and in the thought of all that he has meant to his country, his state, his city, and his beloved College.

6. That these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Faculty, and copies of them sent to the local papers and to the family of Mr. Inman.

(Signed)

NANNETTE HOPKINS,
S. G. STUKES,
J. D. M. ARMISTEAD,

Committee on Resolutions.

Thirteen

Resolutions of Appreciation



NASMUCH as it has pleased an all-wise God to call to Himself Mr. Samuel Martin Inman, who was for nearly sixteen years a member of the Board of Trustees of Agnes Scott College, and since October, 1903, its beloved and honored Chairman.

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That this Board hereby place on record its highest appreciation of Mr. Inman's personal service to the College:

As a Trustee he ever evinced the deepest interest in its welfare. As Chairman he presided over the meetings of the Board with dignity and grace. He was always modest and considerate of others, and yet a wise leader, ever commanding, without effort, the hearty support and co-operation of every member. His devotion, and faithfulness were un-failing. He gave himself without stint, and cheerfully, to the advancement of every enterprise of the College. Indeed, it is impossible to overestimate what his interest, his leadership, and his efforts meant to the institution. During the term of his Chairmanship it made very remarkable advance in the enlargement and improvement of its plant, more than doubled its assets, and developed from a secondary school to a College of standard grade.

2. That the Board hereby records its gratitude for his liberal donations to the College. Including the amount promised in his last letter to the Board, he has given altogether over one hundred thousand dollars. Through his gifts and influence more than twice as much more has been secured.

3. That the Board feels keenly a sense of bereavement in his departure. We shall greatly miss him in our meetings, and in the great work committed to us. Yet his life and example shall be to us all a high inspiration, and with God's blessing we shall continue the work in which he wrought so efficiently.

4. That the Board extends to his bereaved family their deepest sympathy. We congratulate them on the glorious heritage of such a noble life.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

Fourteen

An Appreciation



HAVING as students received the benefit of the wise counsels, untiring labors, and generous benefactions of Mr. Inman; and, further, as the grown up children of our Alma Mater, having realized in an even fuller measure all that he meant to Agnes Scott, we, the Alumnæ, feeling deeply the loss which has befallen us and the College in the death of Mr. Inman, desire to express our heartfelt appreciation of that mind so clear, that soul so pure, that character so Christlike, which through so many years has been our example and inspiration.

May the life of this great and good man ever prove a stimulus to the Alumnæ in their efforts to further the cause so dear to his heart!

MARGARET E. McCALLIE,
ETHEL A. GAINES,
ANNA I. YOUNG,
Committee for the Alumnæ.

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